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SUBJECT Ilyich and Kuibyshev Steelworks in Zhdanov

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1. The Ilyich and Kuibyshev Steelworks were on the northeastern outskirts of Zhdanov, formerly Mariupol (47°05'N/37°36'E), Ukrainian SSR, not far from the Azovstal Ironworks. The Ilyich Plant was divided into two sections by a highway. The northern section included a blast furnace department, open-hearth departments, rolling mills, a firebrick factory, workshops and assembly shops. The southern section included an open-hearth department producing special steel, a rolling mill and an electric steel department which was reportedly equipped with one furnace having a capacity of 10 tons, but the exact location of this department was unknown. There were a number of foundries in this plant but the location of most of these foundries was also unknown. The Kuibyshev Plant was near the northwest section of the Ilyich Plant but had an independent administration and was subordinate to the Ministry of Metallurgical Industry. The Kuibyshev Plant included tube rolling mills, plate rolling mills and a large assembly department. Power was supplied by a plant-owned power plant and, in addition, outside power was supplied through a long-distance transmission line. There were several spur tracks connecting the plant with the main railroad line.*
2. The two blast furnaces which resumed operation late in 1947 had a total capacity of 1,040 cubic meters. The daily output amounted to about 1,000 tons of special pig iron. Ordinary pig iron was supplied by the large Azovstal Ironworks. There was no coking plant and coke was also supplied by the Azovstal Plant.
3. The steel production of both sections of the Ilyich Plant amounted to about 1,000 tons daily or 300,000 tons annually. Eight furnaces with a daily capacity of 120 tons each were in operation early in 1949. In all, sixteen furnaces with an annual capacity of 600,000 tons were in operation. The furnaces were oil-fired. Mainly ordinary ingot steel was cast in the northern plant section for further processing in the rolling mill, and high quality steel (Gusstahl) was produced in the open-hearth department of the southern section. The production methods were a double open-hearth process (Duplex process) and a combined open-hearth and electric smelting process. The open-hearth plants of both sections were closely connected with foundries. Railroad couplings, axles and tank cupolas were cast in the northern section. Castings made of special steel were produced in the southern section. According to one source, the plant also produced tank cupolas made of chromium nickel steel.

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4. The rolling mills of the Ilyich Plant rolled armor plates produced in the southern section of the plant and plates, structural steel and tubes produced in the northern section. The total annual output was reported to be 200,000 tons of rolled products.
5. The production of the Kuibyshev tube rolling mill allegedly consisted mainly of drilling pipes (Bohrrohren) for the petroleum industry. The diameter of the tubes allegedly ranged from 50 mm to 750 mm with a shell thickness of from 10 mm to 30mm. Also, the production of tubes for cable, gas and water pipelines, and of thin gauge molybdenum steel pipes for high pressure boilers was reported. The annual capacity of both the tube rolling mill and the plate rolling mill was reported to be 120,000 and 100,000 tons. The assembly of railroad tank cars, which reached 300 units monthly, was allegedly a secondary production item. The production was scheduled to be increased after the new construction, which was still under way, was completed. A monthly output of fifty 60-ton flat cars and a weekly output of eighty to hundred 40-ton four-axle freight cars was also reported. Furthermore, according to some sources three 70-ton locomotives were produced monthly as well as railroad accessories, such as couplings and axles. The daily quota of axles was 1,000, but the actual production was only 500 to 600 axles.
6. The total number of employees of the Ilyich Plant was reported to have been 8,000 to 9,000 in 1947. Work was done in three shifts. No information was available as to the number of employees in the Kuibyshev Plant. **

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* Comment. For location and layout sketch of the plant, see Annex.

** Comment. The Ilyich and Kuibyshev plants have a close working relationship with the Azovstal Ironworks. Special processing was done in these two plants, while the Azovstal Plant produced mainly basic materials such as pig iron and coke. The plant installations suffered only minor damage during the war. The Kuibyshev Plant was ready to resume full-scale operation late in 1944. tanks although this was appears probable that this plant did only assembly work, such as fitting turrets on tanks, installing tanks on the railroad tank cars and installing boilers in the locomotives. There is no information to confirm the report that railroad cars and locomotives were actually completely constructed in this plant. The reported number of employees appears to be low. With full scale operation, it is believed the Ilyich Plant would employ approximately 12,000 workers.

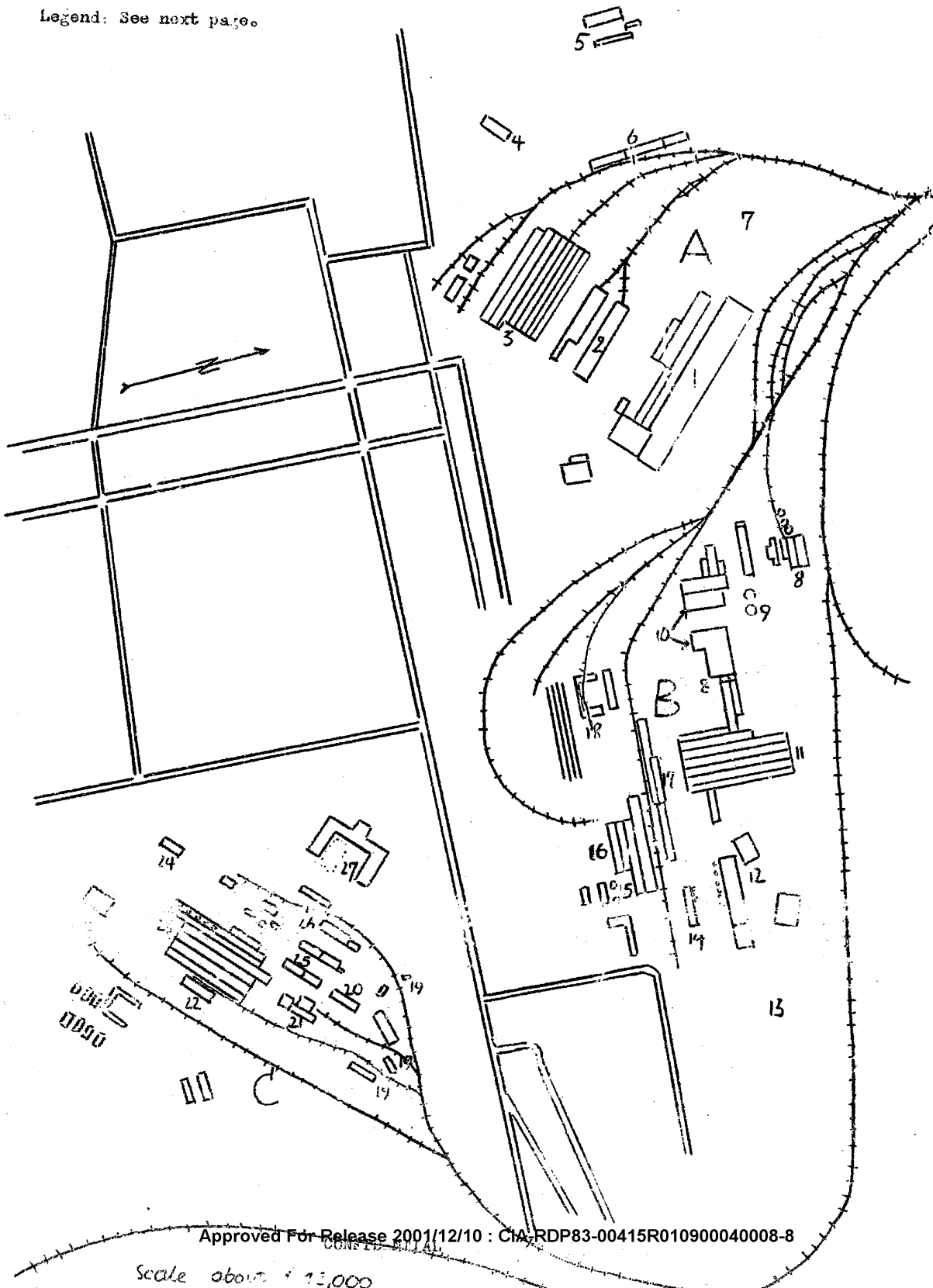
1 Annex: 1 sketch on ditto.

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Layout Sketch of the Ilyich and Kulbyshev Steelworks in Zhdanov

Legend: See next page.



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Annex to

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Legend:

A. Kuybyshev Tube Rolling Mill.

1. Large assembly shops.
2. Mannesmann tube rolling mill.
3. Plate rolling mill.
4. Boilerhouse.
5. Cement warehouses.
6. Department for the production of welding wire (Schweissdraht).
7. Scrap dump.

B. Northern section of the Ilyich Steelworks.

8. Factory producing of firebrick and crucibles. Its equipment included a shaft furnace.
9. Two lime kilns.
10. Assembly shops for the construction of tank cars.
11. Rolling mills, including a tube rolling mill, a plate rolling mill and a structural steel rolling mill, for the production of small-diameter tubes, heavy plates for tank cars as well as T-iron and U-iron, rod and flat iron.
12. Open-hearth plant equipped with 5 to 6 furnaces with a daily capacity of about 120 tons each.
13. Scrap dump.
14. Open-hearth plant with 3 to 4 furnaces.
15. Blast furnace plant with 2 small blast furnaces.
16. Rolling mill.
17. Workshops for further processing.
18. Assembly shop. This shop allegedly was also used for construction of locomotives.

C. Southern section of the Ilyich Steelworks.

19. Warehouses.
20. Boilerhouse.
21. Allegedly a forge.
22. Railroad car repairshop.

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- 23. Open-hearth plant equipped with 5 to 6 furnaces with a daily capacity of about 120 tons, and a rolling mill for armor plates.
- 24. Water basin.
- 25. Auxiliary workshop, allegedly used for repairwork.
- 26. Foundry and allegedly also a latheshop.
- 27. Administration building.

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